In all animals the minute structure of the brain, as detected by the microscope, appears in a measure similar, consisting of globules, and a more or less fluid and often elastic transparent matter. The ganglions appear also similarly composed in all the animal tribes of a congeries of nervous fibres.

Some Observations on the Migration of Birds. By the late Edward Jenner, *M.D. F.R.S.; with an Introductory Letter to Sir* Humphry Davy, *Bart. P.R.S. By the Rev.* G. C. Jenner. Read November 27, 1823. [*Phil. Trans.* 1824, *p.* 11.]

The author's intention in this paper is not to give a general history of the migration of birds, but to adduce some hitherto unnoticed facts respecting the causes which excite the bird at certain seasons of the year to quit one country for another. Among these the most prominent are certain changes in the generative organs, and the necessity of a climate or country where they can be better accommodated with succours for their infant brood than in that from which they depart. He also adduces facts to prove that their departure from this country is not in consequence of change of temperature or scarcity of food, but the result of the accomplishment of their errand, namely, the incubation and rearing their young.

The author then offers some remarks on the winter birds of passage, tending to show that they quit this country in spring in quest of a situation better adapted to their intended purpose, and that they are actuated by the same impulse in leaving this country that causes the spring birds to come to it, and not by want of food. That the emigration of the winter birds is less complete than that of the spring migrators, and that some species, especially the wild duck and wood-pigeon, breed here.

Redwings and fieldfares appear to be the most regular and uniform in their appearance and disappearance, and never seem to risk the trial of incubation here.

Dr. Jenner remarks, that in severe and long-continued frosts, birds often quit the country through want of food, but that they return upon the approach of more temperate weather, which is announced by their reappearance. The arrival of water birds, on the contrary, forebodes the approach of intense frost.

The author then offers some observations on the singing of birds, and details some additional facts and particulars respecting the different sizes of the generative organs of birds, as they appear at different seasons of the year.

On the Nature of the Acid and Saline Matters usually existing in the Stomachs of Animals. By William Prout, *M.D. F.R.S.* Read December 11, 1823. [*Phil. Trans.* 1824, *p.* 45.]

The object of this communication is to prove that the free acid usually existing in the stomachs of animals is the muriatic acid, and that the salts present are alkaline muriates.